

Kentucky River Foothills Development Council, Inc.

Organization Description

Kentucky River Foothills Development Council, Inc., a community action agency established in 1962, embraces a philosophy of needs-based strategies and family-based services leading to family self-sufficiency and economic self-reliance. The agency provides a comprehensive range of services for low-income families and individuals in the Appalachian area of Eastern Kentucky.

Project Description

The Kentucky River Foothills Development Council will assist faith-based and community organizations with budgets of less than \$250,000 in 18 of Kentucky's Appalachian counties to increase their effectiveness, enhance their ability to provide social services, expand their organizations, diversify their funding sources, and create collaborations to better serve those who are reliant upon them.

Geographic Scope of Project

Eighteen counties in Central Appalachia, located in the Eastern one-third of Kentucky.

Partnering Organizations

Kentucky River Foothills Development Council will partner with three other Community Action Agencies and the Kentucky Association for Community Action.

Sub-Awards

Kentucky River Foothills Development Council through its Appalseed (Appalachian Social Enterprise Empowerment and Development) project will issue \$127,825 in sub-awards. Five sub-awards of \$10,000 each will be made to organizations participating in the Fellows program, and sub-awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 to other faith-based and community organizations. Priority will be given to organizations working in social services areas of: homelessness, at-risk youth, elders in need, welfare-to-work, those in need of intensive rehabilitation, and healthy marriages.

Project Objectives

1. Increase the capacity of faith-based and community organizations to access resources that foster sustainability;
2. Increase involvement in collaborative, community-based networks;
3. Bridge the digital divide through computer technology;
4. Improve leadership capacity;
5. Build capacity to become result-oriented organizations;
6. Expand capacity to address high priority community needs.

Project Strategies

- Create Appalseed, an association of service providers to sustain and expand the project;
- Appoint regional program coordinators in four regions to serve as mentors and conveners;

PROJECT DIRECTOR:

Adriel Woodman

(859) 624-2046

adriel@kyriverfoothills.org

Contact Information:

Kentucky River Foothills
Development Council, Inc.

1623 Foxhaven Drive P.O. Box 743

Richmond, Kentucky 40476-0743

(859) 624-2046

www.kyriverfoothills.org

- Provide technical assistance through volunteer experts, peer-to-peer assistance, workshops, on-line ask-an-expert, distance learning centers, and experiential learning; Establish an expert pool for training and technical assistance;
- Create regional forums;
- Develop and provide curriculum and standards of excellence for faith-based and community organizations;
- Establish of an expert pool for training and technical assistance.

Grant Award Amount

\$511,298



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